GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:387
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2017
Signal Blindspots in Urban Areas
Lekhi Smt. Meenakashi

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are signal blindspots in urban areas where no service provider is separately able to provide telecom signals and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government has received complaints pertaining to non-receipt of signals during the last three years and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and

(c) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.387 FOR 29TH MARCH, 2017 REGARDING "SIGNAL BLINDSPOTS IN URBAN AREAS ".

(a) Madam, the signal blindspots in wireless network is a normal phenomenon which may happen due to various reasons including poor radio coverage, loading of available spectrum, shutdown/ sealing of existing sites, denial of permission for installation of new sites, prolonged power failures, cable cut etc. No data is maintained by the Government pertaining to signal blindspots. Further, radio jammers may also result into localized signal blindspots.

(b) Licence Service Area (LSA) wise detail of complaints related to Poor Mobile Signals received during last 3 calendar years viz. 2014, 2015 & 2016 is enclosed as Annexure.

(c) The augmentation of wireless networks by adding new Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) by the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) is a regular exercise to improve the quality/ coverage of their network. However, looking into the large number of complaints, the Government has asked the TSPs to improve the coverage of signal to the extent feasible by installing more BTSs. The TSPs have reported that they have already installed 1,09,000 BTS across the country from July 2015 to May 2016 and 2,16,000 additional BTSs from June 2016 to February 2017. The TSPs have also informed that about 4,97,000 BTSs have been optimized for improvement in Network Performance since July 2015.

Annexure
Licence Service Area (LSA) wise detail of complaints related to Poor Mobile Signals received in the calendar year 2014, 2015 & 2016
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Sl. No. Licensed Service Area 2014 2015 2016
1 Andhra Pradesh 124 133 221
2 Assam 45 58 121

3 Bihar 278 275 354
4 Delhi 689 1124 1002
5 Gujarat 131 171 236
6 Haryana 137 186 205
7 Himachal Pradesh 16 16 31
8 Jammu & Kashmir 35 29 70
9 Karnataka 173 186 241
10 Kerala 68 27 37
11 Kolkata 33 72 70
12 Madhya Pradesh 126 158 178
13 Maharashtra 466 557 582
14 Mumbai 130 157 159
15 North East 19 18 37
16 Odisha 61 129 100
17 Punjab 155 130 286
18 Rajasthan 149 183 197
19 Tamilnadu 224 284 236
20 Uttar Pradesh − East 334 374 454
21 Uttar Pradesh-West 55 43 104
22 West Bengal 153 241 178
Total 3601 4551 5099
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